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INFO RUEHGB/AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD PRIORITY 0004  
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RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 0670  
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 0633  
RHMFIAA/CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUEKJCS/CJCS WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUMICEA/USCENTCOM INTEL CEN MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY  
RUEAAIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RHEHAAA/WHITE HOUSE WASHDC PRIORITY  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0685  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

S E C R E T DAMASCUS 000565

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR NEA/FO, NEA/ELA, NEA/IZ  
NSC FOR SHAPIRO/MCDERMOTT  
EMBASSY KUWAIT FOR GENERAL MOELLER'S DELEGATION

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/09/2029  
TAGS: PGOV PREL PMIL IZ SY  
SUBJECT: SARG READY FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH BORDER ASSESSMENT  
DELEGATION, BUT NO SPECIFICS YET

REF: STATE 82665

Classified By: CDA Chuck Hunter for reasons 1.5 b and d.

(S) Post delivered reftel demarche and non-paper along with dipnotes requesting SARG assistance in receiving the USCENTCOM-led delegation scheduled to arrive in Damascus on August 12. We confirmed by phone the MFA's receipt of the package with Husam Alaa, Chief of Staff for Vice Minister Faisal Miqdad. Husam told us the Syrian side would be ready to receive the U.S. delegation. He was not yet able, however, to provide information on the composition of the Syrian team or a substantive response to our proposal for a joint assessment of three Syrian border points-of-entry. He said the SARG would study the U.S. nonpaper and provide a response in due course. We are attempting to arrange a meeting between the Charge and Alaa to gain more insights into Syrian thinking prior to the U.S. delegation's arrival.

HUNTER